



NWCG Smoke Committee March 2014 Activity Update



Outreach and Messaging

- Smoke Exposure video and guidebook are available on WFSTAR.
- Mike—will re-format activity updates for 508 compliance.
- SmoC will now use 508 compliance template for Briefing Papers.
- Invite Mark to the SmoC neighborhood on Lessons Learned.
- Smoke Exposure video and guidebook available on WFSTAR.
- Fire Emissions Tracking Systems will be covered on April 3 call.
- SmoC conference call cancelled on 3/27.

JFSP Funding Proposals

- Due April 30th.

NWCG Business

- “Where There’s Fire, There’s Smoke” BP – wrapped up by 3/13 & sent to Elaine/508 compliance.
- Executive board meeting is March 26th—Robin Heffernan is acting chair.
- April 24th – eShare training 508 compliance documents.
- Budget requests due April 28th. May 28—Budget eShare on status.
- Keep SmoC Training information up to date.
- Proposals to NWCG are due April 30th.
- Reminder - NWCG Glossary Entries for review - Reply Due May 1, 2014.
- Review NWCG Glossary entries – Reply due May 1. Regulatory definitions need to be added.
- NEI 2014 BP – aimed at state forestry/land management community. Susan wants add to BP references that the 2011 NEI tech support doc is a draft.
- GIS data layer standards for fire history, fuels treatments, and polygons-Comments due May 1.
- Heath Hawkenberry wants input on standardizing NWS products.
- SmoC will want to comment on the Fire Complexity documentation.
- Training issues need to be discussed w/Training Branch.

“Where There’s Fire, There’s Smoke” Briefing Paper

- Mike discussed research with the authors—would like info on specific research. Can be validated by several agencies but do not have a specific literature source. Would like to find research to tie w/surface PM2.5 monitoring stations.
- Brightness signatures from plume used to gauge the elevation of the plume on satellite imagery (gray – ground signature/brighter – higher elevation signature). Possible future project.

Training Course O&M

- Smoke Management and Air Quality for land managers cited by NWCG. Needs to be updated.

Geospatial Data Layer Standards

- The three proposed standards are available for your review on the NWCG Website at <http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/stds/standards/index.htm>.
- The three Geospatial Data Layer Standards are:
 - Fire History (polygon)
 - Fire Occurrence (point)
 - Fuels Treatment (polygon)



**NWCG Smoke Committee
March 2014 Activity Update**



Monitoring Cache Updates – Discussing solution on transition from BLM RAWs cache to PNW AirFire.

Subcommittee Report-outs

Smoke Technical Topics

- Continuing work and reviewing chapters of Smoke Management Guide.
- NEI Dialogue to continue w/EPA and within the subcommittee.
- Comparison of wildland fire emissions from 2011 with NEI and EPA Greenhouse gas report.
- Consider who to invite (Tom Moore) for the Fire Emissions Tracking Systems call April 17th.
- Mark was on FENC call w/Robin Heffernan. Interest growing on topic of mixing heights.

Smoke Training

- Smoke Exposure Guidebook is being reformatted.
- Transportation Safety Guidebook, last look/finalization.
- Will continue to discuss 310-1 revisions and RX-410 updates w/SmoC.
- Josh to write a summary on RX-410 requirements for RXBs compared to LTANs based on 310-1 and what smoke responsibilities are listed in position task books.
- Working w/Fuels and OWDC on RX-410 recommendations for 310-1 RX Burn Boss positions.
- Discussed updating the Smoke Managers online tutorial.
- Looking at spreadsheet of incident command smoke responsibilities that was initially developed following our training assessments on NWCG and IQCS.
- Discussing the Air resource advisor guide and task books.

Smoke Managers

- Last meeting had callers from Canada and the southeast. Mark Melvin talked about prescribed fire councils. Iowa and Oregon are in the process of forming Rx fire councils.
- Gained new members from northwestern CA and WI.

Round Robin Topics

- Need to send a NWCG/SmoC 'Thank You' card to Chris Gibson for his presentation.
- EPA conducting monitoring meeting in June—need to discuss talking points regarding availability of Javelin monitors for smoke monitoring.
- Fuels Management committee is asking for Rx fire complexity guide comments-due by 5/7. Will be posted on the web. The memo is in process of being signed.
- Gary is looking at 500 meter and 9m/hr thresholds. Also, origin of ventilation factor threshold.
- PM2.5 Designations – EPA designations will be final by the end of this year. 2013 data is not included in these, but that data can create changes. Oregon and Idaho specifically and probably some other areas may be influenced by 2013 data. Let SmoC know if aid is needed on flagging 2012/2013 wildland fire influenced data. Nick can talk to Brian Finneran on this topic in Oregon.
- Dan Johnson – EPA is rumored to have lowered the priority on rulemaking. We will not see a draft rule made public until ~June. Staff are so tied up with litigation that it will not be any time before that (also delayed may be ozone guidance from fires – they are working on laying out a set of tools for states to derive the impact of fire on a given ozone value).